

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2213 without my signature.

This bill would require janitorial contracting businesses to register with the Labor Commissioner. California law contains extensive protections for workers, including some specifically designed to protect workers in the janitorial contracting industry. These workers do not need additional laws to protect them, but instead need existing laws to be fully enforced. The Labor and Workforce Development Agency, using its authority under existing law, was recently able to secure back wages for janitorial workers in excess of \$1.5 million.

As we work to make California a better place in which to do business, we should not establish new barriers that prevent employers from expanding their operations. This bill would also make successor contractors liable for wages and penalties owed by the previous contractor. The requirement that a successor contractor be held liable for the violations of the previous contractor will only serve to dissuade good employers from taking over business from those employers who choose to break the law. This does nothing to help those working for the unlawful employer, but merely keeps the good employer from expanding operations.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this measure.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger